

Date: July 8, 2008

To: Medicaid Personal Assistance & Self-Direct Assistance Providers
Medicaid Private Duty Nursing Providers

From: Abby Hulme, Program Manager
Senior and Long Term Care Division

RE: Fiscal Year 2009 Health Insurance for Health Care Workers Application

We are pleased to inform you that the 2007 Montana Legislature allocated funds to reimburse Medicaid personal assistance and private duty nursing agencies that provide health insurance coverage to workers. The Senior and Long Term Care (SLTC) Division has the authority to pass on approximately \$2.5 million for Medicaid Personal Assistance and Private Duty Nursing agencies. The funding is available January 1, 2009. Don't forget to thank your local legislators for this positive support of the direct care workforce.

Every Medicaid Personal Assistance and Private Duty Nursing agency must complete the enclosed application, Application 1, and return it to the Division by July 25. Providers that decide not to participate in the funding must complete Section 1: Intent to Participate. Providers that intend to receive the funding must complete all of Application 1, including Section 1: Intent to Participate; Section 2: Utilization Report; and Section 3: Agency Current Insurance Plan.

The Division will distribute the health insurance funding as part of the Medicaid reimbursement rate to Medicaid agencies in the form of a monthly gross adjustment. Funding will be distributed according to the total percent of Medicaid personal assistance, self-direct personal assistance, HCBS personal assistance and private duty nursing services an agency provides in the state.

The enclosed application material includes the Department's benchmark standards. These standards, or comparable insurance coverage approved by the Division, must be met in order to receive funding. Please review the "Explanation and Instructions" portion of the application for more details on the funding and application process.

Please send completed Application 1 forms to:

Abby Hulme
Health Insurance Project
DPHHS-SLTC
PO Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604-4210

Don't forget to check out the Health Care for Health Care Worker website for more detailed information on the funding initiative, including a complete Application 1 and workgroup meeting agendas, notes, and handouts. The website address is:
<http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/sltc/services/communityservices/HCWorkers/Index.shtml>

Each agency must notify caregivers about the plan to provide health insurance coverage. Please attach a detailed explanation of how this will be accomplished. The SLTC Division will not mediate between agencies and employees.

Thank you for your time in completing the Health Care for Health Care Worker Funding Application. If you have any questions please contact Abby Hulme at ahulme@mt.gov or (406) 444-4564.